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REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

For the BOROUGH OF WILTON: for the YEAR

1943.

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Sanitary and Health Officers:
Medical Officer of Health: G.Napier, B.Sc.M.B.Ch.B D.P.H.,C.T.M.&H.
Phone Wilton 112
Salisbury 3371

Sanitary Inspector: Trevor David, A.R.S.I. M.S.I.A

Medical Officer of Health's Report .

for the year ended December 1943,
on Public Health Matters in the
Borough of Wilton.

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Section A. General Description of the Borough.

Population	2,284.
Acreage	2,681.
Number of Inhabited houses	767.
Number of Working Class Houses	528.
Number of Council Houses	116.
Industries and Trades:	Carpet Factory Felt Mill
Rateable Value	£13,776.
Product of a penny rate	£52.

Public Services:-

Gas Supply	The Salisbury Gas Company
Electicity Supply	The Wilton Electicity Supply.
Highways	Wilts County Council.
Sewage Disposal	Pipes to works outside Borough.
Refuse Removal	By private contractor.

Vital Statistics for 1943.

	Total	M.	F.	
1. Births				Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population:-14
Live Births	32	24	8	
Legitimate	30	23	7	
Illegitimate	2	1	1	
Stillbirths	0	0	0	Rate per 1,000 live and Stillbirths:- 0.
2. Deaths.	18	9	9	Rate per 1,000 of estimated Resident Population:-7.9
Deaths from puerperal and other maternity causes	Deaths.			Rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths:-
Puerperal Sepsis	0			0
Other Maternal Causes	0			0

Death Rate of Infants under One Year of Age

All infants per 1,000 live births	31.2
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	33.3
Illeitimate infants per I,000 illegitimate live births	0

Special Causes of Death

Deaths from cancer (all ages)	2
Deaths from Measles(all ages)	0
Deaths from other infectious diseases	0
Deaths from Diarrhoea(under two years)	0.

There was no outstanding cause of death . The death rate was unusallylow.

Brief Notes on Public Health during the year.

General health in the Borough has again been good. There have been no epidemics of infectious disease nor any deaths from this cause. The death rate is one of the lowest the borough has ever had Also for the first time in recent years the birth rate is greater than the death rate. It is also satisfactory to note that there was not a single death for either pulmonary or nonpulmonary disease. (T.B) Wilton also maintains a satisfactory record in regard to maternity cases there being no deaths connected with child birth. There was again not a single case of diphtheria, how much this is due to the fact that over 95% of the child population is immunised is difficult to say since Wilton has been little troubled by this disease in epidemic form. There is however little doubt of the efficacy of the treatment elsewhere.

Section B.

General provision of Health Services in the Area.

The Medical Officer spends the whole of his time in Public Health work, being Medical Officer for the meighbouring districts of Salisbury and Wilton, and Mere and Tisbury. His qualifications are Bachelor of Science(Hons) Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery, Diploma of Public Health of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons, Certificate of Tropical Medicine and of Tropical ~~Hygie~~ Hygiene London.

There is a fully qualified Sanitary Inspector in the Borough He holds the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute(Sanitary Inspector), the Meat and Foods Certificate, and the Certificate in Sanitary Science as applied to Buildings and Public Works.

Contribution is made to these officers salaries under the Public Health Acts.

The medical officer in charge of the infant welfare and the antenatal clinic is Dr Straton of West Lodge Wilton who is also P Public Vaccinator for the district.

Other Officers----Midwives.

There are two nurses who devote part of their time to Wilton and part to the adjoining rural area. They also act as school nurses They are responsible to a local committee acting in conjunction with the Wilts County Authority.

Nursing in the Home.

This is undertaken by the above nurses. A scheme for home help for aged people is at present under consideration.

Section C. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water Supply:

The public supply is obtained from a shallow well and is treated with chloramine before entering the resevoir. Samples of the water are taken Monthly(before treatment) and are sent for bacter -iological examination. On each occasion during the year the re port stated that there was no evidence whatsoever of harmful pollution. Copy of the latest report of the year is under:-

Report on Bacteriological examination of water.

Water Sample received on 10th November 1943 from the rising main of the water works at Wilton taken before treatment.

1. Bacteriological Count:-
   Total Colonies growing on Agar at 37oC in 48 hours-------1
2. B.Coli counts at37oCin 48hrs and44oCin 48hrs

	Acid and gas from Lactose	
Quantity of water tested:	At37oC	At44oC
5 tubes of 10mlwater	----	------

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Acid and gas from Lactose

Quantity of water tested: At37oC At44oC

5 tubes of 10mlwater ---- ------

5 tubes of 1ml water ----- -------

As a result of calculation made from above ;-

No of Coli Aerogenes per 100ml growing at 37cC -------Nil.

No of faecal type of B.Coli per 100ml at 44cc--------Nil

OPINION Bacteriological examination shows this water to be free from any evidences whatsoever of harmful pollution.

Dated.12.11,43. Signed LHDF
Pathologist.

Housing.

In December the Council agreedb to build 18 houses as ~~it~~ its first year post-war housing plan. It decided to purchase a site of approximately two acres for these houses,but the rural land utilisation officer refused a clearance and the site had to be abandoned Negotiations for alternative sites were then commenced. The Council's pre-war scheme of 58 houses for slum clearance and to abate overcrowding is still in abeyance owing to the war.

Overcrowding.

There is at prent considerable overcrowding in the town but action can only be taken in serious cases. Two such cases occurred during the year and had to be dealt with by removals.

Drains and Sewers,

The load on already overtaxed sewage system was increased during the year resulting in the lower part of the system being surcharged for considerable periods. Fortunately there was no serious interruption to the flow and no stoppages.

The drains at nineteen premises were given atttention ~~du~~ during the year and either repaired or relaid.

Closet Accomodation.

All houses within practicable distance of the sewer are connected therewith,outlying cottages have earth or pail closets.

Public Cleansing.

There is a weekly collection of house and trade refuse with disposal at a controlled tip in the Area of the City of Salisbury Street cleansing is carried out by the Highway department of the County Council. Both services are reasonably satisfactory.

Verminous Premises.

Bed-bugs; One complaint of infestation was received during the year at a house occupied by an aged person. The rooms were twice fumigated and no further trouble was experienced.

Milk and Dairies.

There are four farms within the town boundaries. Three have tuberculin tested herds,and the fourth is accredited.

Dairy premises are inspected quarterly and samples of milk taken on behalf of the County Council to ensure maintenance of the Designated Milk standard.

Meat and food inspection.

Since the war no slaughter of animals for food has been carried out within the Borough. Periodical inspections are made of meat in butchers shops and of the vehicles used in transporting meat.

Small quantities of canned foods are from time to time found unfit usually this is due to blown tins. The details of ~~ei~~ condemnations are as follows:-

Beef(Home-killed)	99lbs.
Canned Meats	97lbs
Canned Fish	13tins
Canned Fruits	48tins
Canned Milk	20tins
Rolled Oats	84lbs
Flour	24lbs
Cereals	46Pkts.
Eggs	30dozen.

Bake-houses

There are four bake houses in the Borough, routine inspections ~~are~~ were made;the regular limewashings are carried out and the premises are maintained in good condition.

Rodent Destruction.

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Following on the Infestation Order of the Ministry of food a"workable area" was established consisting of Wilton and the four neighbouring Authorities. The Sanitary Inspector is a member of the joint advisory committee. A survey of the town was was made but no serious infestation was discovered. The appointment of a Rodent Officer jointly with a neighbouring Rural Authority was proposed but so far it has been found impossible to make the appointment.

Civil Defence Accomodation.

From time to time inspection was made of the sleeping accomodation of the civil defence and fire guard personnel. In the main conditions were good and the premises kept clean. No complaints were made of any skin infection.

AirRaid Shelters.

Four communal shelters were built during the year fortunately they were never called into use and no Public Health question therefore arose.

Factories.

There are two factories in the town. The sanitary accomodation here was inspected as usual as was also "the means of escape in case of fire". Everything was satisfactory.

Abbreviated report on work under the Public Health and Housing Acts

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses:-
   Number inspected for Housing Defects -------87
   Number of inspection made 264
2. Remedy of Defects without formal notice:-
   Number rendered fit as result of informal action--69
3. Number of Dwelling Houses grossly overcrowded--------2
4. Number of Statutory Notices served----------Nil.

Control of Infectious Disease

During the year there were only four cases of infectious disease sent to the Isolation Hospital. These were all cases of Scarlet fever and were the only cases of notifiable infectious disease which occurred during the year. They were also the first cases of scarlet fever to occor for over four years. The usual disinfection was carried out and no cases have since occurred.

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